



STATE OF KANSAS

OFFICE OF THE KANSAS STATE FIRE MARSHAL

Prevention Highlights

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 4

OCTOBER, 2011

Special News:

- *Congratulations to our recent Fire Inspector retiree's: Carol McDonald, Steve Zerr, Jesse Robbs, and Ron Adams. We wish them well!!*
- *We would like to welcome our newest Fire Inspector, CJ Peters, who will cover the northwestern part of the state.*
- *Job Opening: Fire Prevention Inspector (North Central KS)....call 785-296-3401 for details*

A MESSAGE FROM THE FIRE MARSHAL - TERRY MAPLE

For most of us, the holiday season represents a time for family gatherings and good cheer. However, I would like to remind everyone that the holiday season is also a time when there is an increased risk of home fires. Things such as increased cooking, use of live Christmas trees, holiday scented candles and decorations significantly contribute to the seasonal causes of home fires. Add to that the hectic nature of the holidays, when people are hustling about and the chance for home fires grows even further.

Fortunately, with a little added awareness and some minor adjustments, the holiday season can remain festive *and* safe for everybody.

Keep anything that can catch fire away from the stovetop
Turn off the stove when you leave the kitchen
Consider using flameless candles
Keep traditional candles at least 12" away from anything that can burn
Blow out candles before you leave the room
Limit the use of extension cords
Do not use space heaters next to combustible material
Do not sleep with a space heater turned on

Best wish for a safe and happy holiday season!!

FROM THE CHIEF, BRENDA MCNORTON

Each year the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) leads an annual fire prevention campaign. Fire Prevention Week was established to commemorate the Great Chicago Fire, the tragic 1871 conflagration that killed more than 250 people, left 100,000 homeless, destroyed more than 17,400 structures and burned more than 2,000 acres. This year's theme is "Protect Your Family From Fire".

I would like to encourage everyone to talk with your family about fire prevention and fire escape routes. As an active member in the fire community, I cannot tell you how important this will become if you ever have a fire incident in your home. Especially for homes with elderly or young children, as it is never too early to talk with them about what they need to do when they smell smoke, see a fire, or hear the alarms go off.

We have great resources on our webpage for fire escape planning and other home fire safety tips at www.ksfm.ks.gov and as always, if you have questions please contact us at 785-296-3401. We would be glad to help you in your fire safety efforts.

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HEALTHCARE CORNER: 2012 LIFE SAFETY CODE?

The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) recently released the 2012 Edition of the 101 Life Safety Code. Subsequently, there has been a lot of articles written about the changes to the healthcare chapters that would greatly impact the healthcare industry. We have already seen emails flying through our office asking about any immediate impact to Kansas facilities.

It's important to remember that just because NFPA releases a newer edition of the code does not mean that Centers for Medicare and Medicaid (CMS) will adopt the new code. A code book is just a book, until it's adopted by a governing entity and made into law. The State of Kansas is contracted to conduct inspections of facilities receiving monies from CMS under the code of federal regulations established by CMS. Currently CMS has the 2000 Edition of NFPA 101 Life Safety Code adopted.

While we agree that it's important to stay current with what is happening in the code industry, we caution you on making any changes to your facility based upon the newer code editions.

When and if CMS decides to make a change to their regulations we will be sure to let you know. In the meantime, we are all mandated to continue to follow the 2000 Edition of NFPA 101 Life Safety Code.

"There are no new lessons to be learned from this fire; only old lessons that tragically went unheeded."

Percy Bugbee, President NFPA, 1958

K-12: WE DON'T USE THE GAS LINE IN OUR LABORATORY

The school year has just begun, or at least it seems like it, and a common issue that we have seen is in regards to inadequate separation of the laboratories from the corridors or other classroom spaces.

The International Building Code, 2006 Edition requires that laboratories located in Group E occupancies must be separated by a 1-hr fire rated separation or be provided with an automatic sprinkler system.

In many instances, when an inadequate separation is discovered through inspection, the facility representative will state that the school district has turned-off the gas supply and no longer uses the gas as part of classroom activities.

Typically the use of the gas line is what makes the laboratory a hazardous space, thus requiring the separation. If the facility no longer utilizes the gas, an easy solution to the violation would be for the facility to "cap" the gas lines and provide a letter to the Office of the State Fire Marshal stating the gas lines are disabled.

This would effectively turn what was once considered a hazardous space into a normal classroom that no longer requires the increased fire separation.

Keep in mind that this potential solution would only apply in cases where the gas use is the only flammable/combustible prod-

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LOCAL JURISDICTION & CODE FOOTPRINT

Many things can go wrong during new construction, renovations and remodels, change of ownership, license amendments, change in use etc, which could be costly to the facility owner if left undetected.

The Office of the State Fire Marshal has developed a Local Jurisdiction Approval Notice form. This form is provided to local jurisdictions in Class I and Class II cities with a paid fire inspector per KSA 31-137. On this form the Local Jurisdiction is required to provide fire department information, facility information as well occupancy information and active fire protection features. The Office of the State Fire Marshal requires the local jurisdiction to comply with all local jurisdiction codes as well as the Kansas Fire Prevention Code. The Office of the State Fire Marshal also requires that an approved code footprint and/or drawing shall be submitted with the form.

This form allows the Local Jurisdiction to inspect as well as perform plan reviews for the following occupancies. Plan review also includes fire alarm plans and sprinkler plans.

- Schools
- Childcare
- Correctional / Detention
- Assisted Livings
- After School Programs
- Preschool
- Residential Board and Care

Once the form is filled out completely by the local Jurisdiction and the appropriate drawing or code footprint is attached it shall be submitted to the Office of the State Fire Marshal for review and acceptance.

HOME DAYCARE CENTRAL

Home daycares provide some of the most diverse situations because very few homes are built and/or designed the same. Sometimes determining proper or adequate exiting can become a challenge.

The situation has become even more complex with providers wanting to provide a separation between the daycare area and the living area. This often results in the use of basements for the daycare operations.

Home daycare providers are not able to use basements or upper levels of the home for daycare use until the basement and/or upper

level has been inspected and approved by the fire authority (local fire department or KSFM).

Additionally, home daycares are limited to providing care for up to 12 children. If the provider wishes to provide care for more than 12 children, the home will have to be licensed as a child care center. It would be extremely difficult to turn a standard home into a child care center; and it is not permissible by KDHE to license a home as a center.

Ultimately it is the providers responsibility to be in contact with the fire authorities before making changes to location or licensure.

***"Let no man's ghost return to say his training let him down."* - Firefighters Saying**

PROPANE LICENSING

Some of you might have already discovered that we have a new enforcement officer in charge of propane licensing. His name is Butch Meyer and he has been with the Office of the State Fire Marshal for almost 2 years. Mr. Meyer worked very closely with Jennifer Flott to ensure the licensing program continues to operate smoothly and effectively.

The registration period for the 2011-2012 license year is drawing to a close. We have only one facility that is still pending their licensure. The total number of Class 1 licenses issued for 2011-2012 is 238 facilities!!

The 2011 propane inspections were conducted in June, July, and August. We inspected over 1,600 facilities with 1,124 facilities receiving a perfect inspection! Thank you to everyone for helping to keep Kansas propane facilities in compliance!!!

If you have questions or concerns, please contact Butch Meyer at 785-296-6471 or email at butch.meyer@ksfm.ks.gov

If you have an article that you would like published in the next issue of Prevention Highlights, email amanda.yorkey@ksfm.ks.gov
Space is limited so submit your articles early!

"Thank you to everyone for helping to keep Kansas propane facilities in compliance"

FUEL TANK INSTALLATIONS

Since 1913, the Office of the Kansas State Fire Marshal has been responsible for regulating Class I, II, and III flammable and combustible aboveground storage tanks for the following types of occupancies: 1) government, business, and industrial operations that will be installing an aboveground storage tank with a capacity of 660 gallons or more, and 2) agriculture operations that will be installing an aboveground storage tank with a capacity of 1100 gallons or more. The OKSFM is also responsible for regulating non-fuel flammable or combustible liquid aboveground storage tanks as mandated by Kansas Statute 65-34,136. Regulation and inspection of storage tanks located below ground is the responsibility of the Kansas Department of Health and Environment.

The National Fire Protection Standard that this office utilizes for plan review and inspection of flammable and combustible aboveground storage tanks is the 2008 edition of NFPA 30. Aboveground storage tanks required to be regulated by this office and used for retail purposes, such as those located at motor fuel dispensing facilities, must comply with the 2008 edition of NFPA 30A. Individuals or companies requesting to have a tank approved by this office must complete the AST application lo-

cated on our website - www.ksfm.ks.gov. A drawing showing the location of the tank in proximity to other tanks and buildings located on the site, public streets, property lines, etc. must be included with the application. If the liquid is considered a CERCLA hazardous material then a MSDS sheet must be provided.

Some of the more important items to remember to complete on the application are whether or not the tank has been approved by a nationally certified testing organization (i.e. Underwriters Laboratories, SPCC), tank dimensions, capacity, correct description of tank product, dike capacity, and size of vents. Inspections performed by this office of aboveground storage tank locations meeting the above definition are conducted annually. The above items mentioned as important features of the tank that must be completed on the application shall also be clearly identifiable during the OKSFM site inspection, including proper corrosion protection, keeping the grounds free of trash and weeds, fire extinguishers, proper piping identification and arrangement, emergency procedures, and collision protection.



CONTRACTORS AND VENDORS

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Fire Extinguisher Knowledge

October is “fire prevention month”, which is dedicated to raising awareness of the danger of fire, and how to be more prepared if we are suddenly in a life-threatening situation involving fire.

The proper first-line of defense in many fire circumstances is a portable fire extinguisher. However, a fire can double in size within two or three minutes, so your safety should always be your primary concern when attempting to fight a fire. If the fire is small enough and not spreading rapidly, follow these safety tips when using a fire extinguisher.

Make sure you have the proper fire extinguisher for what is burning, and stand with your back to the exit.

Stand several feet away from fire, moving closer once the fire starts to diminish.

Use a sweeping motion and aim at the base of the fire.

If possible, have someone back you up and call for help if the fire gets out of hand.

Be sure to watch the area for awhile to ensure it doesn't re-ignite.

IMPORTANT: Recharge all extinguishers immediately after use regardless of how much they were used.

NFPA 10 is the National Standard for Portable Fire Extinguishers – This standard is prepared for the use and guidance of persons charged with selecting, purchasing, installing, approving, listing, designing, and maintaining portable fire extinguishing equipment. With so many fire extinguishers to choose from, NFPA 10 was designed as a guide to insure safety and consistency to the public regarding the use of fire extinguishers.

For example; did you know that fire extinguishers should be inspected at approximately 30-day intervals by the owner or designated agent or occupant of a property in which fire extinguishers are located? According to NFPA 10, an “inspection” is a quick check to give reasonable assurance that an extinguisher is in its designated place, that it has not been actuated or tampered with, and that there is no obvious physical damage or condition to prevent its operation.

MAINTENANCE

Fire extinguishers shall be maintained at regular intervals (at least once a year), or when specifically indicated by an inspection. Maintenance is a “thorough check” of the extinguisher, performed by trained and certified persons who can determine if hydrostatic testing or internal maintenance is required.

Having a fire extinguisher is one thing, but having it available, and knowing how to use it in an emergency is the most important thing.

Professional Fire Alarm Systems offers fire extinguisher training programs from classroom to hands on training. They are certified through NAFED

Information Provided By: Tammy Boyd
Professional Fire Alarm Systems
785-379-0300
visit our Website at www.pfasks.com.

TEST YOUR FIRE INSPECTION SKILLS

KSFM staff have identified an issue within this picture. Can you identify what is wrong?



The facility has outlets that are not secured to the wall. An open-air wire splice can be seen behind the outlet box. All splices must be within a covered junction box.

FYI: THIS IS NOT OK EVEN FOR A SHORT TIME



In the last issue of the Prevention Highlights, we discussed the changes to fire drill frequency as a result of the Office of the Kansas State Fire Marshal adopting new regulations. Subsequently there were a lot of questions regarding the fire drills changes and we felt it was necessary to provide some additional F.A.Q.'s to help clarify:

Q.) Do we have to sound the alarm at night?

A.) *The code does not mandate the use of fire alarms to initiate the fire drills for residential board and care occupancies. However, the code does state that the intention of the fire drill is to familiarize residents with fire evacuation procedures and hearing the fire alarm is part of that training. The Office of the State Fire Marshal will not require the use of the fire alarm at night, a coded announcement will be permissible. However, the fire alarm must be used to initiate the drills during the day.*

Q.) Do we have to do full evacuations for every drill?

A.) *The code says that all residents must participate using all egress paths in accordance with the facility evacuation plan. The evacuation plan states that you must have a plan in place for situations that require keeping resident in-place, relocating to an area of refuge, and for evacuating from the building. So not every drill should be a full evacuation. Rather some will be full evacuation, some will be defend-in-place, some will be relocating to another part of the building. This should be varied from drill to drill.*

Q.) We do drills on a one per shift per quarter frequency. Is that wrong?

A.) *No. However, you only need to do them six times a year on a bimonthly basis, with not less than two drills conducted at night while residents are sleeping.*

LOCAL JURISDICTION INSPECTION LIST

Here is a listing of fire departments that have provided guidance on inspection activities within their communities. Facilities highlighted in red conduct home daycare inspections only. For a more detailed listing of what type of inspections each department has agreed to inspect, see our webpage at www.ksfm.ks.gov/local-jurisdiction-inspections

| | | | | |
|------------------|--------------------|-----------------|---------------|-----------------|
| Abilene | Fort Riley | Liberal | Sterling FD | Westwood |
| Andale | Fort Scott | Maize | Stockton FD | Westwood Hills |
| Andover | Frontenac | Manhattan | Tonganoxie FD | Wichita |
| Arkansas City | Garden City | McPherson | Topeka | Wichita |
| Atchison | Garden Plain | Medicine Lodge | Washington FD | Winfield |
| Augusta | Gardner & Edgerton | Merriam | Wellington | Yates Center FD |
| Baxter Springs | Goddard | Mission | | |
| Bel Aire | Goodland | Mission Hills | | |
| Belleville | Great Bend | Mission Woods | | |
| Bonner Springs | Halstead | Mulvane | | |
| Caldwell | Harvey County | Neodesha | | |
| Chanute | Haven | Newton | | |
| Cherryvale | Hays | Olathe | | |
| Clay Center | Haysville | Olathe | | |
| Coffeyville | Hesston | Ottawa | | |
| Colby | Hillsboro | Overland Park | | |
| Columbus | Holcomb | Overland Park | | |
| Colwich | Holcomb | Park City | | |
| Concordia | Hutchinson | Pittsburg | | |
| Concordia | Independence | Prairie Village | | |
| Derby | Iola | Pratt FD | | |
| Dodge City | Junction City | Roeland Park | | |
| Edgerton | Kansas City | Russell | | |
| El Dorado | Kinsley | Salina | | |
| Ellsworth | Lane | Shawnee | | |
| Emporia | Lansing | South Wichita | | |
| Eudora | Lawrence | Spearville FD | | |
| Fairway | Leavenworth | Spring Hill | | |
| Fort Leavenworth | Leawood | | | |

Meet CJ Peters

C.J. Peters is a Fire Prevention Inspector with the Office of the State Fire Marshal. C.J. has been with the State Fire Marshal's office since September 2011. C.J. is nationally certified as a Firefighter I and has an Associate's Degree in Fire Science from Hutchinson Community College. Prior to his employment with the State Fire Marshal he was a Corrections Officer at Hutchinson Correctional Facility. In his spare time C.J. enjoys watching football and baseball with his family, friends and his dog.

CJ will be covering north-west Kansas from Rush County north and west to the borders. Please help us in welcoming CJ to the team.

